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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/900,420	07/06/2001	Paul Raymond Matteau	027906-0221	7143

26574 7590 03/14/2002

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EXAMINER

DAVIS, CASSANDRA HOPE

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

3628

DATE MAILED: 03/14/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/900,420

Applicant(s)

MATTEAU ET AL.

Examiner

Cassandra Davis

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-32 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11, 14, 18, 19 and 21-29 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 12, 13, 15-17, 20 and 30-32 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 2. 6) ☐ Other: ____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1, 2, 7, 8, 11, 14, 18, 21, 22, and 29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Matsui, Japanese Patent 5-201187. Matsui teaches a mount for an album page comprising a pasteboard 2 and a transparent sheet 3 on the front and rear side of the pasteboard. The paste-board has a plurality of spaced holes 2a and a transparent sheet are welded or adhered to one another through the holes 2a to form a plurality of seals 4a-d, wherein the seals aligned along the top edge and bottom edge. The seals are arranged such that photographs can be inserted between laterally spaced seals and longitudinally space seals

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 3, 4, 5, 6, 19, 23, 24, 25, and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Matsui in view of Hakamata, Japanese Patent 9-207,468. Hakamata teaches an album page comprising a central sheet 3, a transparent sheet 5

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on the front and rear surface of the sheet. The transparent sheet is secured to the central sheet 3 along the top and bottom edge 3c, the top and bottom corner 3b and intermediate sections 6-9 to form a plurality of pockets. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time this invention was made to construct the album page/mount taught by Matsui whereby the transparent sheets are seals to the central sheet along the top and bottom corners as taught by Hakamata to provide a means retain the photographs within the pockets formed by the sealed sections and to prevent damage to the corners by reinforcing the corners with the sealed sections.

5. Claims 9, 10, 27, and 28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Matsui in view of Amat, U. S. Patent 5,374,975. Amat teaches a film holder comprising a plastic base sheet 12 and plastic transparent cover sheet 14 overlaying the base sheet 12. The cover sheet is bonded to the base sheet by ultrasonic welding. It would have been obvious to construct the base or central sheet of the album page taught by Matsui of a plastic material as taught by Amat to provide a means to seal or weld the sheets together without providing a hole in the central sheet.

Conclusion

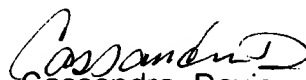
6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The following Japanese Documents are cited to show album pages with spaced seal portions: 6-45765; 5-201188; 2001-219683; 8-108672; 3001714; 2001-253188; and 4-21498.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cassandra Davis whose telephone number is 703-308-2223. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:00-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Anthony Knight can be reached on 703-308-3179. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-305-7687 for regular communications and 703-305-7687 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-2168.


Cassandra Davis
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3628

CD
December 21, 2001